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COUNTRY CzechoslovakiaREPORT NO. TOPIC Airfields and Air Activity Observed in Czechoslovakia

25X1X EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	25X1C
25X1C DATE OF CONTENT			
25X1C DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	7 Dezember 1953
25X1A REFERENCES			

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. An airfield was located 8 to 10 kilometers southeast of Gottwaldov (Zlin) (P 50/O 51), which was referred to as a civilian airfield. Source observed, however, that the field was only occasionally used by commercial planes and that it mainly served military purposes. On the morning of 19 September 1953, 2 twin-engine monoplanes were parked at the field, while a third one was about to take off. The aircraft had radial engines in front of and below the wings and landing gears retractable to the rear. The front of the fuselage which was glassed to the sides and on top projected beyond the tips of the engines. The aft of the engine did not project beyond the trailing edges of the wings. The wings which had rounded tips had a slight dihedral setting to the fuselage and were fitted near its upper edge. The aircraft had double rudder assemblies. They were referred to as "Lavatscka" among the population.² On the day under review, 2 jet aircraft were observed flying over the town. No national emblems could be observed on the aircraft. According to an informant, an airfield suitable for jet aircraft was to be constructed about 10 kilometers west of the town. Source could not determine whether this information was based on a rumor or on a fact.³
2. On 15 September, two or three buildings which looked like workshops were observed at the southern exit of Kuchyna (P 49/S 92) west of the road. Source could not determine whether these buildings belonged to an airfield.⁴
3. On 16 September, there was air activity in the air space over Nove Mesto (P 49/T 36) by aircraft of the type observed at Gottwaldov. The maximum number of aircraft seen aloft at the same time was 4. The aircraft practiced flying banks and loops at various altitudes. Source learned from local residents that there was no airfield located in the near vicinity of Nove Mesto.⁵
4. On 16 September, source observed an aircraft of the described type coming in for a landing southeast of Zilina (Q 50/O 52) where an airfield was presumably located. There was intensive air activity by this type of aircraft over the town.⁶
5. On 16 September, source while riding a train observed that just south of Holesov (P 50/O 12), west of the road, the open field merged into an airfield. Two twin-engine aircraft of the described type were parked under trees 200 to

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250 meters west of the road, while a third plane of this type landed from the north and subsequently was parked next to the two other planes. Two newly constructed hangars were observed at the field.⁷

6. On 19 September, the airfield about 3 kilometers southeast of Brno (P 50/ N 40) was guarded and patrolled by sentries on all sides. At the road leading north of the field to the east there was a barracks installation covering an area of about 250 x 150 to 200 meters which consisted of several gray-green buildings 60 to 70 meters long. There was intensive individual flying. Eight to 10 aircraft of the described type and 7 MiG-15s were observed at the field. A mobile radar installation consisting of a 2-meter long and 1.8-meter high trailer with an antenna on top was seen near the barracks installation.⁸
7. According to an informant, a large airfield occupied by jet fighters was located near Prerov (P 50/C 03).⁹
8. Intensive individual flying by aircraft of the described type was observed at the airfield southwest of Trenc.Biskupice (P 49/T 58). Four to 5 aircraft were continuously seen aloft. The planes landed from northeast to southwest.¹⁰

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1. ☐ Comment. An airfield about 10 kilometers southeast of Gottwaldov is unknown. According to the map, the terrain appears unsuitable for an airfield. As the airfield was referred to as a civilian airfield, possibly Otrokovice airfield, about 10 kilometers west of Zlin, is meant. If so, source erred in the cardinal point.

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2. ☐ Comment. Possibly Siebel O4 type aircraft.
3. ☐ Comment. Previously no information on the construction of an airfield 10 kilometers west of Gottwaldov has been received. Otrokovice airfield, which is located about 10 kilometers west of Gottwaldov, appears unsuitable for being improved as a jet fighter airfield.

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4. ☐ Comment. According to available information, no airfield is located near Nove Mesto. It is believed that the aircraft observed belonged to the training unit of the Czechoslovakian Air Force stationed at Trencin airfield, about 18 kilometers northeast of Nove Mesto.

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6. ☐ Comment. Zilina airfield is located just southeast of the town. It is believed that the field is used by commercial airlines and the Aero Club.

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7. ☐ Comment. According to previous information, construction work at Holesov airfield started in the spring of 1951 and was scheduled to be completed by 1952. The field was to be used as civilian airfield instead of Otrokovice airfield. According to unconfirmed information the field was completed in 1953 and taken over by the Czechoslovakian Air Force.

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8. ☐ Comment. One or two Czechoslovakian fighter regiments probably equipped with MiG-15s are believed to be stationed at Brno-Turany airfield.

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9. ☐ Comment. A Czechoslovakian fighter regiment equipped with MiG-15s is believed to be stationed at Prerov airfield. ☐

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10. ☐ Comment. A flying school of the Czechoslovakian Air Force is believed to be stationed at Trencin airfield.

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